

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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IO-10 ACDA-10 SAJ-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /093 W

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R 131136Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1587

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

UNCLAS BANGKOK 4196

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFO MARR, TH, CB, CH

SUBJECTC PRIME MINISTER DESIGNATE KHUKRIT PROAMOT ON CAMBODIA

U.S. PRESENCE AND PRC

NEW PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE KHUKRIT PRAMOT GAVE A PRESS
CONFERENCE AT PARLIAMENT ON MARCH 13. PRIOR TO THE VOTE WHICH
SELECTED HIM THE FOLLOWING EXCERPTS OF AN INFORMAL USIS
TRANSLATION COFER HIS REMARKS ON CAMBODIA, THE U.S. MILITARY
PRESENCE AND FUTURE THAI RELATIONS WITH THE PRC.

REPORTER: AFTER YOU ARE APPOINTED HEAD OF THE GOVERNMENT,
WHAT ACTION WILL YOU TAKE IN REGARD TO THE PRESENT SITUATION
IN CAMBODIA?

KHUKRIT IT IS NO BUSINESS OF THE THAI GOVERNMENT TO GO AND
TAKE ANY ACTION IN REGARD TO THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA. IT
IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CAMBODIA TO REMAKE ITSELF. WE WILL
NOT INTERFERE IN IT UNDERANY CIRCUMSTANCES BECAUSE IT IS NO
BUSINESS OF OURS AT ALL. BUT WE MUST KEEP CLOSE WATCH
AN BE ON OUR GUARD TO PREVENT OUR COUNTRY FROM BECOMING
A SECOND CAMBODIA.

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REPORTER: WHAT IS YOUR VIEW IN REGARD TO THE WITHDRAWAL

OF BASES? WHAT TIME LIMIT SHOLD BE FIXED FOR THEIR WITHDRAWAL?

KHUKRIT: I DON'T KNOW FACTS IN REGARD TO THE SITUATION AND REASONS, OR IN REGARD TO ANY COMMITMENTS. AS AN ORDINARY PERSON WHO IS NOT HEAD OF THE GOVERNMENT YET. I WOULD LIKE THEM TO BE WITHDRAWN AS SPEEDILY AS POSSIBLE, WHICH MEANS THAT THEY SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN TOMORROW, OR THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW SHOULD THAT BE POSSIBLE, OR WITHIN 3 MONTHS OR 6 MONTHS. OR ONE YEAR. THE TIME LIMIT FOR THEIR WITHDRAWAL SHOULD NOT BE LONG .

REPORTER: WHAT DO YOU THINK WOULD NOT BE TOO LONG?

KHUKRIT: I DON'T KNOW. ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT THEY SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN AS SPEEDILY AS POSSIBLE.

REPORTER: DO YOU APPROVE OF THE PROPOSAL MADE BY MAJ. GEN. CHATCHAI FOR MOVES TO BE MADE BY STAGES, FOR RECOGNITION TO BE EXTENDED TO CHINA THEN FOR THE 3 WORLD POWERS TO GUARANTEE OUR NEUTRALITY, AND THEN FOR THEM U.S. TROOPS TO BE GRADUALLY WITHDRAWN?

KHUKRIT: SHOULD WE MAKE SUCH A DEMAND IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT, AND IT WOULD REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE TIME.

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